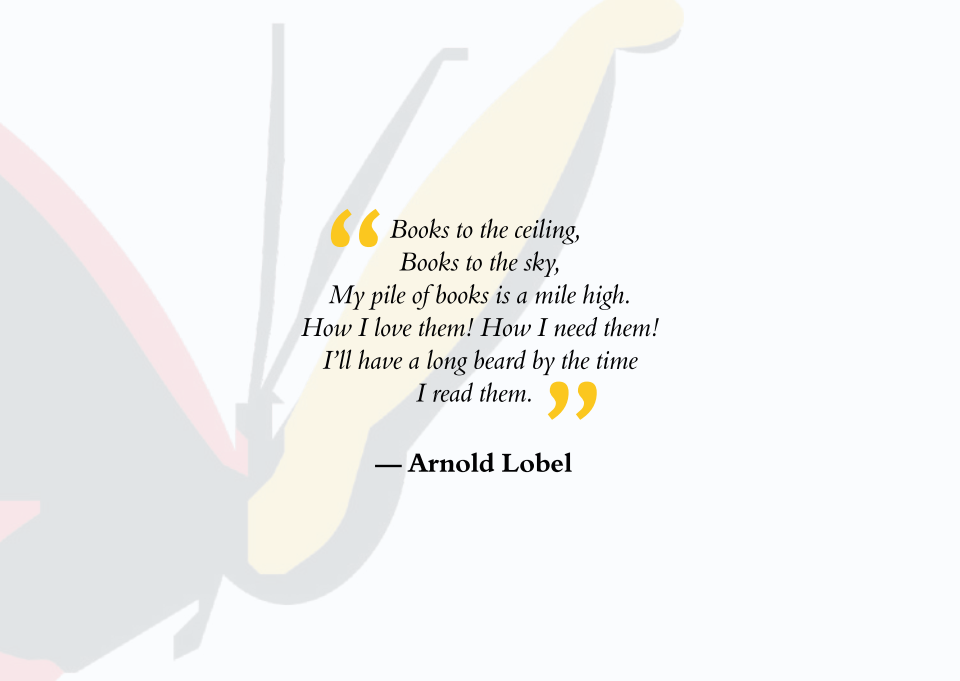


2019

CATALOGUE

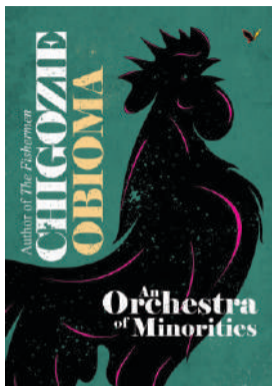


*“ Books to the ceiling,
Books to the sky,
My pile of books is a mile high.
How I love them! How I need them!
I'll have a long beard by the time
I read them. ”*

— Arnold Lobel

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He raised the chickens above his head. 'This is what will happen if somebody fall inside there. The person will die, and no one can see them again.'

He lunged towards the rails, his hands heavy with the birds, which cackled in high-pitched tones and stirred with agitation in his grip. 'Even these fowls,' he said again, and flung them over the bridge into the gloom.

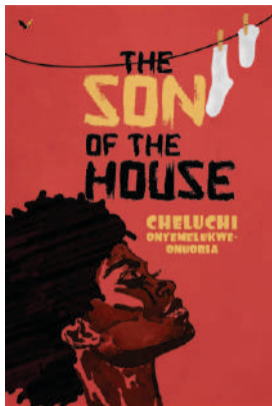
AN ORCHESTRA OF MINORITIES

Chigozie Obioma

Umuahia, Nigeria. Chinonso, a young poultry farmer, sees a woman attempting to jump to her death from a highway bridge. Horrified by her recklessness, Chinonso joins her on the roadside and hurls two of his most prized chickens into the water below to demonstrate the severity of the fall. The woman, Ndali, is moved by his sacrifice.

Bonded by this strange night on the bridge, Chinonso and Ndali fall in love. But Ndali is from a wealthy family, and when her parents object to the union because Chinonso is uneducated, he sells most of his possessions to attend university in Cyprus. Once in Cyprus, Chinonso discovers that all is not what it seems. Furious at a world which continues to relegate him to the sidelines, Chinonso gets further and further away from his dream, from Ndali and the place he called home.

In this contemporary twist on Milton, Dante and Homer written in the mythic style of the Igbo literary tradition, Chigozie Obioma weaves a heart-wrenching epic about the tension between destiny and determination.



THE SON OF THE HOUSE

Cheluchi Onyemelukwe-Onuobia

Julie and Nwabulu – two women who have been abducted – decide to tell each other their stories 'to pass the time', while they wait to be ransomed by their loved ones. In telling their stories, both women find that their lives cross at important junctures. Nwabulu, one-time house maid and now a successful fashion designer, finds that Julie has the answers to the one ache she has carried in her heart since her late teens. Julie, a septuagenarian who has lived a life of subterfuges – each one bigger than the last, finds that she must now confront her biggest lies.



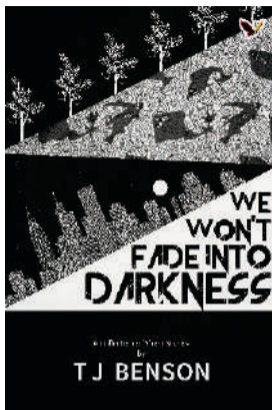
MEN DON'T DIE

Ever Obi

In the possession of stolen lucre, Brume Lauva takes a big step and decides to run away from a life he has known for more than a decade; a life of consistent failures, and from a girlfriend that shattered his heart and his last feeble grip on a broken dream.

Lagos, he believes, could offer another chance at life, where he could mend his broken heart, and perhaps start to dream again. But en route to his land of promise, a fatal bus crash occurs, and Brume is the only survivor—without a scratch. He flees the scene of the accident and hitchhikes his way to Lagos.

In Lagos, he begins to live again. He gets reconnected to a long-lost friend, with whom he shared dreams in the university. He invests the stolen money and finds love again. He gets all he craved on a plate—money, comfort and something resembling happiness. But there is more to this world—a monumental test that would change his life forever. MEN DON'T DIE is a thought-provoking story of love and money; death and spiritualism. About a man's personal struggles against the unfairness of life, in search of true happiness.



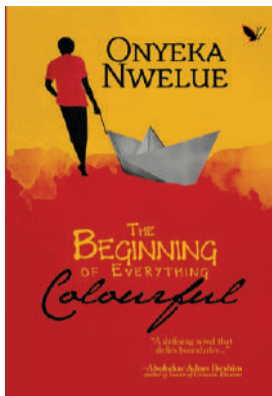
WE WON'T FADE INTO DARKNESS

T J Benson

An Abusive father is forced out of safety to find his runaway son in a world where males are going extinct and female monarchs have resorted to drastic methods to ensure continuity of the Nigerian race. An Ogbanje travels to a near post-apocalyptic Nigeria from the past with a solution even she is not aware of. In a Nigeria where the British never left, a white boy who lives in Lagos seizes a banned book from one of his father's Nigerian household serfs and their friendship yields disastrous consequences in Passion Fruit.

In *We Won't Fade into Darkness*, the past and future comes to a head, indiscriminate exploitation of the oil eventually yields Nigerium, a gaseous element that poisons air, destroys reproductive organs and drives people insane. The common thread in these stories, apart from the country of its setting is the lifeblood of every indigene, hope

The young man who was to marry her received the news with unusual grace. He wore his three-piece wedding suit to the room where her body was kept; still in the becoming bikini he had never seen her wear. He traced his hand over her length and said below a whisper: "You were dead before you could belong to me."



"...His father had dragged him from the family station-wagon, using the subduing hammerlock technique, he had his arm wrenched painfully up and behind in a firm pincer grip and he offered no resistance. Don't fight it; he'll hurt you if you fight it. Then he'd found himself roughly propelled into the tin-roofed workshop."

THE BEGINING OF EVERYTHING COLOURFUL

Onyeka Nwelue

Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko are welcoming Spain's King Felipe VI and Queen Letizia, who are visiting Japan as state guests, at the Imperial Palace, with Crown Prince Naruhito and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe also attending a related event there. But there are two nameless people who are not happy with this visit- a Mexican Musician , who hates the Spanish and a Japanese business man, who hates the Chinese.

They meet at the Transit Lounge in Doha International Airport, waiting for their connecting flight to Tokyo and begin telling revealing stories which take us to Lille, Paris, New York, New Delhi, Lagos, Tel Aviv and down to Tokyo.

The Beginning of Everything Colourful is a masterfully written novel that drives its narrative with facts incorporated into fiction, bringing real life characters to live on the same pages with imagined characters. It is filled with amusing ironies about race, cultures, politics, cultures, religion and politics.

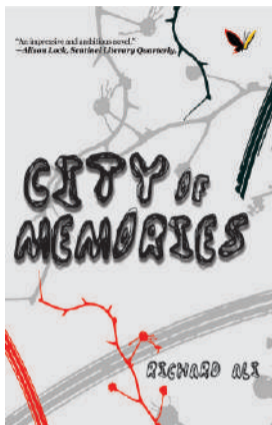


"...let me tell you something nobody else will tell you, hunger is a very good thing. Our people do not know this that is why they remain poor... the thing pushes you to do something that you did not imagine you could do before... You are very lucky to be chosen... this thing that Yinka has brought you people for is not for people that are not hungry."

MY MIND IS NO LONGER HERE

Ifedigbo Nze Sylva

The story unravels from the different points of view of four men – Donatus, Chidi, Osahon and Haruna – who suddenly find their fates tied to a certain consultant named Yinka. Theirs are stories of greed, love, ambition, unfulfilled dreams and the fear of failure.



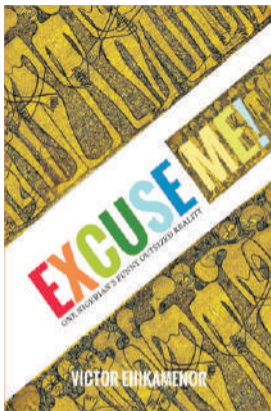
Love is like a child; It cannot be undone. Not by the whole wide world and certainly not by our weaknesses.

CITY OF MEMORIES

Richard Ali

A thwarted love affair forces Faruk to flee to the Northeastern Nigerian village of Bolewa, from where his parents emigrated three decades earlier. There, he unearths his mother's tragic story and discovers the key that just might keep his country one if he can make it back to Central Nigeria alive.

City of Memories follows four characters negotiating the effect of various traumas. Towering above them is the story of Umimi al-Qassim, a princess of Bolewa, and the feud that attended her love—first for a nobleman, then for a poet. All four characters are bracketed by the modern city of Jos in Central Nigeria, where political supremacy and perverse parental love become motives for an ethno-religious eruption calculated to destroy the Nigeria State . . .



There are those who don't have the shoes or hat to come to your palace, you must meet them at the point of their needs.

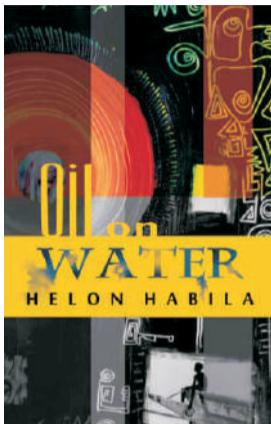
EXCUSE ME!

Victor Ehikhamenor

EXCUSE ME is a compilation of Victor Ehikhamenor thoughts, experiences, and keen observations while he was the pioneer creative director of Next newspaper. Most of this beautifully strung together collection of creative non fiction were first birthed on the pages of the Lagos-based newspaper, Next Daily, Next on Sunday and 234NEXT.com between 2009-2011. Majority of the content were informed by actual socio-political events that took place during that period, plus more.

Also interesting are Ehikhamenor's illustrations and drawings presented throughout the book, especially those in the middle of the book that were done during morning editorial meetings. Look beyond these doodling, and you have crucial insight into the élan thinking of the minds behind the short-lived dynamic newspaper. During some of the crucial early editorial meetings at NEXT, Ehikhamenor would draw on the printed minutes while listening or contributing to how they would shape the future of the newspaper. It is also important to note that the drawings kept him awake during the 10 AM mandatory meetings, after long hours of work the previous day. While some people may regard NEXT as a media house, Ehikhamenor strongly believed it was an institution of higher learning.

As a regularly widely read columnist and a member of a dynamic group of forward thinking and high achieving individuals, NEXT newspapers provided a new platform for the writer and artist to examine Nigerians and Nigeria at a close range.



The same empty squat dwellings, the same ripe and flagrant stench, the barrenness, the oil slick and the same indefinable sadness in the air, as if a community of ghosts were suspended above the punctured zinc roofs, unwilling to depart, yet powerless to return.

OIL ON WATER

Helon Habila

Helon Habila's third novel explores militancy and petrol-politics in Nigeria's Niger Delta—International cause célèbre following the 1995 extra-judicial killing of environmental activist Ken Saro-Wiwa. Told in Habila's award-winning prose, *Oil on Water* follows two journalists, the younger Rufus and the more experienced Zaq, in a descent through the creeks of the delta to unravel the story of the kidnapped expatriate wife of an oil company executive. . .

"As they struggle up the river in a canoe, guided by an old man and a young boy, the reporters encounter nightmarish scenes of devastation: 'dead birds draped over tree branches, their outstretched wings black and slick with oil; dead fishes bobbed white-bellied between tree roots'. By the flickering light of oil flare, they find some villages abandoned, their fields and water contaminate; others scrape a miserable existence on the frontline of a civil war between the army and anti-government guerrillas." – Guardian UK.

This is a novel about the limits of journalism; it is an incisive exploration of the death of truth in a country of varied corruptions addicted to oil. *Oil on Water* confirms Habila's dazzling talent, evident in his earlier novels and reinforces his place as one of Nigeria's most important writers.



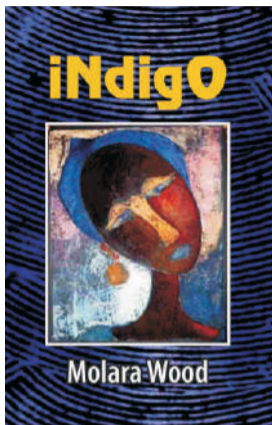
I wonder who came up with that: The truth will set you free. Nonsense! The truth is many things. It can do many things. But the truth does not always liberate, though, does it? It is self serving and sometimes causes harm. The truth has no hiding place, they say. I say it can stay hidden and not cause harm. Ignorance is bliss, is it not? There is more truth in that than in anything we have ever been told about the truth.

NIGHT DANCER

Chika Unigwe

Night Dancer is set in Nigeria and tells the story of Mma and her stubborn mother, Ezi. Ezi's unexpected death leads Mma to learn about her mother's past and rethink the resentment and contempt she has held for her mother her whole life. Mma resents her mother who likes to say things twice like 'dance-dance' and 'happy-happy' and who won't let Mma know anything about her father - Ezi left her husband, Mike, and life in Kaduna, when Mma was a baby to raise her as a single mother.

Written in three parts, Chika Unigwe tells a beautiful story, which reveals what happened, why everything is the way it is and why every character in the book did what they did. It starts in 2001, after Ezi's death, and concentrates on Mma's very negative feelings and hatred towards her mother. From Mma's point of view we see what being raised by a proud single mother did to her childhood and how it affected Mma's life. When Mma starts reading Ezi's letters or her 'memoirs', Mma finds out the truth about her mother, her past life and why she did what she did. Her mother's letters also leads Mma to be reunited with the family she never knew she had - grandfather, uncles, aunts, father. It then goes back to 1960 where we find out what exactly happened to make Ezi leave her husband Mike, and raise their daughter Mma on her own. And it comes back to 2002 when Mma eventually meets her father, Mike, and begins to change her mind about her mother. In these three parts, we hear both Ezi and Mma voices



I took in the sights, sounds and smells of our waterlogged lives. Water seeped everywhere, from under the roots of trees, from the smallest depression in the ground. Leaves were heavy with droplets. It was as if the land and trees themselves wept, inconsolable. Unlike the people, who were always dry eyed. They had seen beyond the tears.

INDIGO

Molara Wood

“Don’t give me that! What kind of woman chooses not to have a child?” This was the question posed to Idera by a supposed super authority on babies. Idera is a young, married, elitist woman who was of the notion that having children was not a priority for newly-weds. She wanted to enjoy her husband first without the intrusion of children. The fact that she stayed in London also made her comfortable with her stand. The demise of her father-in-law, however, brought about some changes that included relocating back to Nigeria. The move back to Nigeria was a rude awakening to her that her stand while it was taken for granted in Western societies, African societies saw it as a huge anomaly. Idera’s battle between maintaining her stand, to her gradual realization that things had gone out of her control and her eventual compromise to listen to what people were saying is what Ms. Wood detailed in ‘Indigo’, one of the stories in the collection.

A collection of short stories told from the perspectives of different characters, ‘indigo’ features some stories that are very reminiscent of those folktales told to us by our parents, grandparents or elderly relatives. Spanning across various themes like love, superstition versus reality, tradition, and poverty, Indigo aims to tell the story of the common man and the sophisticated; the battle between tradition and modernism.

‘Ms. Wood doesn’t just tell folklores she also relates with the current economic realities facing Nigeria and Nigerians. ‘In Name Only; Leaving Oxford Street; The Last Bus Stop and Beautiful Game’ all enunciate that feeling of alienation, that battle of acceptance or rejection, camouflaging and the perpetual anxiety of getting the ‘green card’ that accompanies living in a foreign country. ‘Kelemo’s Woman gives a little insight into the lives of activists and the people that love them. ‘The Scarcity of Common Goods’ is a little admonition on being empathetic with others in their varying conditions or situations because we do not determine how the tide of life turns.



SON OF MAN

Amara Nicole Okolo

OUR MEN...

A university graduate in desperate need of a job. A father's vengeance for a dead son. A young pragmatic man humbled by the horrors of incarceration. An old man's dying gift to a generation. A journalist's courage in a notorious military government. A youth corper's temperance of religion, love and survival

...THEIR STORIES.

From the quiet town of Umuahia to the creeks of Bonny Island, the sweltering plains of Jos to the bustling hub of Lagos, these Nigerian men have a story to tell. Stories of life, love, family, happiness, sorrow, pestilence and death—situations faced every day in their lives. Armed with objectivity, some find peace with their resolutions, while some face dire consequences with prices to pay; with their freedom, or worst yet, their lives.

Every sane man knows that involuntary confinement causes frustration, and frustration is a motivator for determination, acceptance or suicide.



A GECKO'S FAREWELL

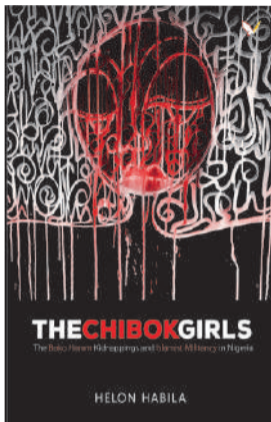
Maik Nwosu

A Gecko's Farewell is a novel about three Africans from different parts of the continent who meet in the spirit (online) and plan to found a School of Stories.

Etiaba, a village school teacher, loses his job and moves to the capital city and its world of prayer contractors and hope merchants. Mzilikazi's is the story of the homeless spectre, the boy soldier, the fugitive, the exile - a black south African dislocated under the Apartheid regime. Nadia is a radical student of photography at the American University in Cairo. She becomes a photojournalist and takes the picture of an Islamist terrorist, an act that endangers her.

These three characters eventually escape from Africa, but Africa is in a sense inescapable.

I have decided that the way to overcome my doubts is to prevail on my fears; to reject the possibility that my life could have been programmed as a morality tale about a certain type of failure. To live after all, is to walk in faith and to desire is to dream.



Most of the sadness came from one's automatic association of Chibok with the kidnapped girls - it was like going to Hamelin and feeling the weight of the absent boys taken by the pied piper.

THE CHIBOK GIRLS

Helon Habila

On the night of April 14, 2014, 276 girls from the Chibok Secondary School in northern Nigeria were kidnapped by the deadly terrorist group Boko Haram.

Fifty-seven of them escaped over the next few months, but most were never heard from again.

Acclaimed novelist Helon Habila, who grew up in northern Nigeria, returned to Chibok and gained intimate access to the families of the kidnapped to offer a devastating account of a tragedy that stunned the world. With compassion and a deep understanding of the historical context, Habila tells the stories of the girls and the anguish of their parents; chronicles the rise of Boko Haram and the Nigerian government's inept response; and captures the indifference of the media and the international community whose attention has long moved on.

Employing a fiction writer's sensibility and a journalist's curiosity, *The Chibok Girls* provides poignant portraits of everyday Nigerians whose lives have been transformed by extremist forces. Habila illuminates the long history of colonialism—and unmasks cultural and religious dynamics—that gave rise to the conflicts that have ravaged the region to this day.

A close-up, warm-toned photograph of a fountain pen with a dark barrel and gold-colored accents, resting on a piece of paper with cursive handwriting. The pen is positioned diagonally across the frame. The background is a soft, out-of-focus yellow.

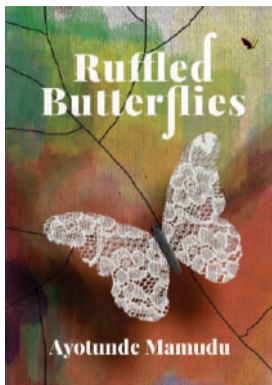
origami

“

The things I want to know are in books; my best friend is the man who'll get me a book I ain't read.

— **Abraham Lincoln**

”



When the doctor came and asked me if I was a relative, I answered that I was her husband and knew he news was not good.

'Your wife is very fortunate to be alive, thank God. But I am sorry the baby didn't make it.'

RUFFLED BUTTERFLIES

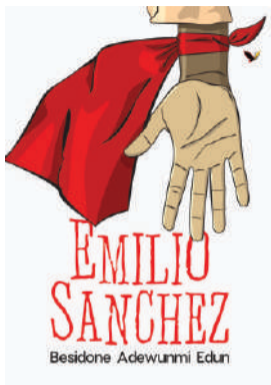
Ayotunde Mamudu

*T*ill death do us part..."

Seemingly innocent transgressions like squeezing toothpaste or leaving pee on the toilet seat lie in wait to trip up these characters who in turn become so stifled by their partners that they can't wait for death to part them.

Some stories in this collection end with cliff-hangers, making room for self-reflection and numerous possible endings. These thirteen stories traverse various domestic issues that call for more meaningful steps than grumbling, as the Morgans, Olabisi, Kayode, Vera and John soon find out.

Ruffled butterfly wings are used as imagery for the delicate family ties of everyday people who are sewn together in marriage. Suspenseful, dramatic, romantic and dipped in an amalgam of Nigerian and Western cultures, these relationships pass through crucibles with the couples spreading their ruffled, ripped mosaic wings to flutter and fly against all odds.



EMILIO SANCHEZ

Besidone Adewunmi Edun

A young lad determined to succeed but faced with an unexpected twist of fate. This is the story of Emilio Sanchez , a young boy from the region of Bata in Equatorial Guinea, whose world came crashing down after the death of his parents in a ghastly car accident.

Emilio was determined to succeed. Padre Antonio , his god-father gave his blessings and so he headed to the capital city, Malabo accompanied by his buddy Pedro.

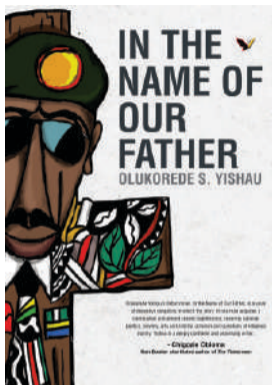
As Emilio settled in at work, he became the Boss's protégé, but after a few months, Emilio was arrested and accused of theft.

Inspector Rodrigo found the evidence "red handkerchief " belonging to Emilio at the crime scene.

How did the red handkerchief get there? Who wanted Emilio's behind bars?

In the midst of betrayal and mistrust , a secret was discovered and a friendship, created behind bars.

*"...You think this is your playground where you can make requests."
He said harshly. "If you claim you didn't steal the valuables and money, why was your so-called 'red handkerchief' with your name on it found on the floor where the safe was located?"*



IN THE NAME OF OUR FATHER

Oluokorede S. Yishau

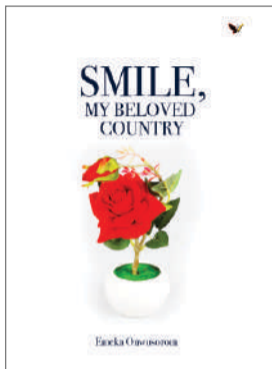
Two men. One dictator. A country in turmoil.

Into this mix is thrown a new novel that threatens to expose the rotten underbelly of “a man of God” who has not only bewitched his flock but has sunk his fangs into the head of state.

In his debut novel, *In The Name Of Our Father*, award-winning journalist Oluokorede Yishau weaves a mesmerising tale of duty, ambition, greed and hunger for power. It is the story of two men intent on preserving their lives but it is on a larger scale the story of a country fighting to throw off the shackles of a power mad dictator.

- **Toni Kan,**
poet and novelist.

The first thing I saw on opening the parcel sent a rude shock down my spine. It was the picture of a lady, a colleague of mine and myself. The picture in question was taken inside a fast food joint. I could not immediately remember taking any such picture with Kaira. This must be some trick, I tried consoling myself. But the fact that the parcel was from my fiancée in far away Port Harcourt puzzled me...



SMILE, MY BELOVED COUNTRY

Emeka Onwusorom

Smile, my Beloved Country is the story of a young Nigerian, Ayo Musa Okeke, who on a visit to Nigeria witnesses the assassination of a presidential candidate, Boni Konida, during a transition to civil rule programme. Within a broken country where civic obligations are ignored as corruption runs rampant, suspicions begin to point to Ayo who is saved by the friendship of a conscientious cop.

From his base in New York where he is a tenured Agricultural Science professor, Ayo unwittingly sets in motion events that will lead him to face off the ruthless Chief Wewe Jumanji in an electoral battle for Aso Rock and Nigeria's future.

He was certain the Chief's last words were a clue. He had spent hours on it. Unlike Ayo, he did not think Chief was calling unto his Juju. He knew for a fact that Chief, while an agnostic at the time of his death, had been a committed Catholic whose fervour had waned over the years as his activism and humanism gained greater centre in his life.



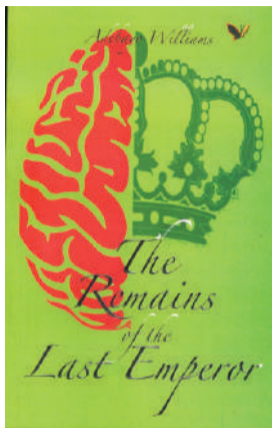
OBITO

Sam Omatseye

Obito is about the unconfirmed death of a Benin King and its cover-up, the uncertainty of its validity amongst the towns citizens and its chiefs. The role of the media and the tradition.

Based on a recent African story, the play dramatises how rumours of a king's death inspire a conspiracy between modern media and technology to expose the lies of tradition.

"I am not Toju, I'm the Leopard, the spirit of thicket. I know no flesh except the one that violates the pact of the dark. You know no women are allowed outside at this time...I am right! There is a forbidden flesh trespassing."

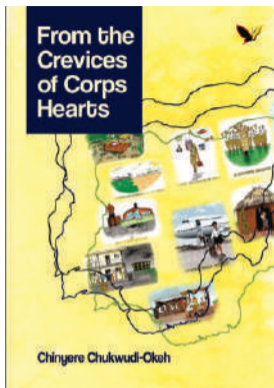


THE REMAINS OF THE LAST EMPEROR

Adebayo Williams

Haunting, intensely lyrical, its canvas teeming with unforgettable weirdos, *The Remains of the Last Emperor* is a memorable portrait of the last moments of a mad tyrant and the extraordinary events leading to his final extermination. A spellbinding narrative on power dementia, this novel reveals that not even the most crafty ruler can win against an enraged populace and that a determined people can unseat any tyrant. The book is a powerful political fable from the author of the award-winning book, *The year of the Locusts*.

'I'm just wondering why they are treating you as a special fellow. I used to think that all mad men are equal, or are you a super-mad man?' he snarled and began to giggle to himself. By this time, they had brought the ECT kit. In those early days, it was the only remedy for his unruly antics.



FROM THE CREVICES OF CORPS HEARTS

Chinyere Chukwudi-Okeh

From the Crevices of Corps Hearts is a collection of short stories that map the experiences of the Nigerian corps members. From the anxiety preceding their posting, to the underlying motives of the scheme, Chinyere Chukwudi-Okeh tells the story of Nigeria's educated youth corps.

Thus, what we have is story of graduates who find themselves serving the nation alongside those who lose themselves. Some find love, while some trade theirs for fleeting feelings. Corpers in villages, towns; corpers randy and righteous.

What we have is the story of a phase of life.

I stared at the emblem for a long while: the national flag, hoisted against the middle white background of the national map, and black lighter behind the map bearing red fire. Suddenly I remembered that I was supposed to be in the middle of a sex-education seminar for young adults.



"A politician cannot represent the interests of his or her community when he has solicited and taken contributions from special interests to finance a costly election. Such politicians can only be governed by a sense of obligation to his or her benefactors."

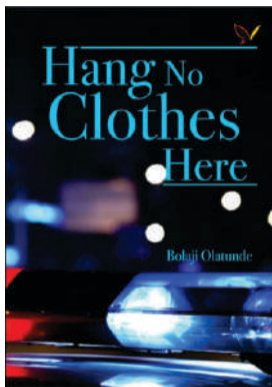
FOR THE LOVE OF COUNTRY

Bamidele Ademola-Olateju

Within this book, you will find engaging works that are not only educative, but also creative, inspirational, as well as upbraiding.

As you follow the first two themes of 'for the love of country' and 'sermon from the political pulpit', the author's passion for equity and social justice, uplifting the downtrodden, empowering the youths, demanding accountability from the leaders, holding up the led to responsible followership, and boldness to stand unshaken in her convictions remain unambiguous.

Most importantly, Bamidele's razor sharp intellect with uncommon and uncanny ability to predict events in the course of dissecting socioeconomic, cultural as well as political issues relating to the political space known as Nigeria, stands out. Referred to as 'Mummy G.O.' (General Overseer) by her flock of followers on Facebook, those who doubt her talent in political clairvoyance should not fail to digest the predictions contained in 'politically prophesying', the third and final theme in this collection of her writings.



"Stop breastfeeding this boy, or should I say man, at this age!" he blasted his sister in Yoruba, loud enough for our neighbours to hear. "Let him come to Lagos and see the world, and experience it for himself".

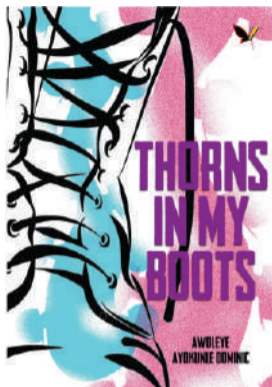
HANG NO CLOTHES HERE

Bolaji Olatunde

Hang No Clothes Here is a tale a Nigerian policeman who gets thrown, unwittingly, into an international turf war between two major international drug cartels, battling to maintain footholds in the Nigerian environment and engaged in a bloody competition to maintain the Nigerian route for peddling narcotics to European and Asian markets.

The story is set in Abuja in 2011 and is narrated by John Braimoh, an assistant superintendent of police, who becomes involved in a seemingly noble cause corruption case—the cover-up of the killing of five ostensibly deviant youths in Abuja, Nigeria, in which his closest friend and colleague, Dennis Omoruyi, and four other officers are deeply embroiled.

The novel interweaves various subthemes into its narrative such as class clashes, the misunderstanding between Africans and Nigerians resident on the continent and their counterparts in the diaspora, racism, homophobia, Black Nationalism, the causes of the Boko Haram crisis which currently afflicts North-eastern Nigeria, abortion and a variety of other social subjects.



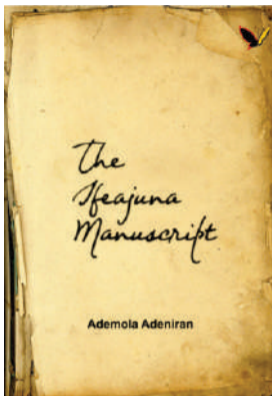
THORN IN MY BOOTS

Awoleye Ayokunle Dominic

In this powerfully wrought work of fiction, Ojo Makanjuola Stephens tells his own story. Of how he tries to rise from the ashes of poverty. He becomes an army officer, only to discover that life was not done dealing with him yet.

Seven years later, after having to Prison on a false charge, after having seen his beloved mother move to the edge and lunacy, he begins to see a light...

My age had been reduced by two years as evident in my sworn affidavit so by the time I would graduate in 2002 or 2003 as the case may be, I will still be eligible to go for the National Youth Service Corps programme as I would still be officially below thirty years of age.



THE IFEAJUNA MANUSCRIPT

Ademola Adeniran

Major Emmanuel Ifeajuna, the first ever African to win gold at a major international sports event and Nigeria's first ever gold medallist was more famous for his lead role in the January 15th 1966 violent coup in Nigeria, than for his track and field acclamation of the 1956 Games in Vancouver.

In 1967, he wrote a controversial account of the January 1966 coup in an unpublished article called 'The Ifeajuna Manuscript' which mysteriously went missing in the hands of one some of Nigeria's best literary minds.

About the same time Major Ifeajune wrote his manuscript, a British freelance war correspondent, Dan Witszel came to Nigeria with a bequeathed special handmade diary to cover the war from the Biafran front. What Witszel didn't realise was that his ordinary looking diary had within it, secrets of the most sophisticated oil rig ever designed.

Suddenly, a knock sounded on the door. Both men looked at each other. Callahan then whispered to the Professor to answer. 'Who is there?' Professor Anozie managed to ask. 'Your lunch is served,' a voice replied from outside. 'Go get it,' Callahan whispered to Professor Anozie. The Professor laboriously wheeled himself slowly towards the door. He opened it, and a Ghanaian man came in wheeling a medium-sized trolley.



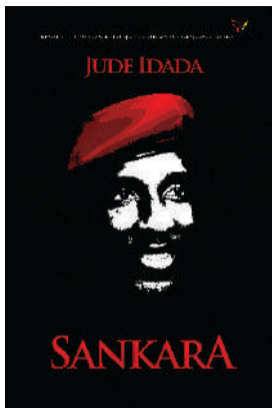
His increasing distaste for Makwala hinged on his becoming more aware of the kind of life people here lived. People did not mind their own business. People liked to gossip, liked to intrude on the other people and their lives, liked to offer help even when unasked, liked to see other people in Makwala as brothers and sisters.

MAKWALA

E.E. Sule

Jackson and Ende growing up in a post-conflict and cosmopolitan Kano city slum of the early 2000s, find themselves in a world where they have to grapple questions that relate to identity, destiny and society. While Ende is troubled by the absence of a father he knows nothing about and a rather strange father who makes matters worse by withholding information regarding his mother, Jackson, a biracial boy called also Lebanese pickin is trapped in a deep self-hate resulting from his abhorrence of his mother's prostitution.

Their friendship begins on the day Ende discovers Jackson's drawing of "a frail woman stuck against the wall by a long iron bar." It is the beginning of a haunting narrative of hate and love, of violence and compassion, of concealment and revelation.

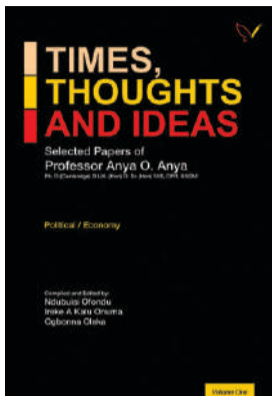


The soft and melodious sound of a guitar is heard. It is the opening strings of the Burkinabe National Anthem, 'Une Seule Nuit'. It carries on for a short while. The voice of Thomas Sankara flows out of the darkness. He is singing the anthem.

SANKARA

Jude Idada

This play is about the last 100 hours in the life of a great African patriot. It recreates the cumulative events that led to his assassination by his best friend and deputy in collusion with foreign governments. It also espouses his vision for a new Africa and his hope that one day, Africa will rise from the Ashes of its ashes of its past into the magnificence of its glorious future.

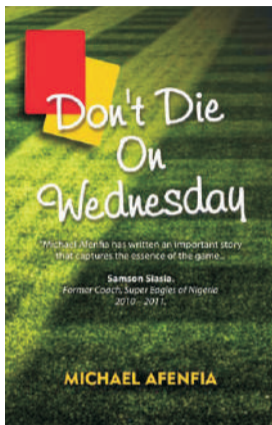


TIMES, THOUGHTS AND IDEAS (VOLS. 1 & 2)

Ndubisi Ofondu, Ireke A. Kalu Onuma, Ogbonna Oleka

This book explores the interdisciplinary mind of Professor Anya O Anya, and most of the papers that appear here are devoted to the role of economics, politics and social trends in the history of our country. He dwells passionately, over and over again on how history and socio-cultural, socio-political and socio-economic tendencies overlap, complement each other, and exist within the competing blocks in Nigeria, never as separate pursuits but as parallel means to the same ends.

"Rather in our peculiar situation, while political and macro-economic stability are vital in order to create the attractive environment for investment, fast economic growth can only come from greater attention to the micro-economy."



Black is black and white is white, right? That's the only way it ought to be, but some genius had to coin the phrase, "shades of grey" Now there are all sorts of layers and dimensions and perspectives to the truth, it's hard to tell what to believe anymore.

DON'T DIE ON WEDNESDAY

Michael Afenla

Rising football star and Tottenham FC top striker Bubaraye Dabowei's career is torpedoed by a freak accident at a game against a crack Manchester United squad. Unable to play professional football, he is torn between his supermodel South African wife Nikiwe Dlomo and a longing to go to Nigeria. Their fraught return plays out against a backdrop of infidelity and his nurturing of the talented but troubled Keme 'Ricochet D'aziba.

Don't Die on Wednesday, Is a story of the game of life, when life suddenly becomes laced with danger and fear, and no one knows how the game will end.

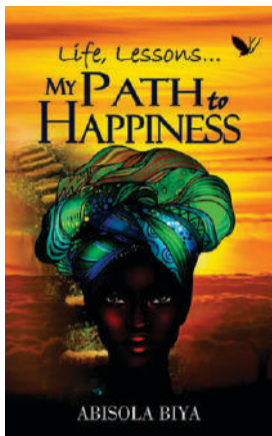


The future belongs to the youths who can read the handwriting, not only on the walls but nowadays on computer screens, ipads or iphones.

SPECKS IN OUR EYES

Jerry Alagaoso

*S*pecks in Our Eyes is a satire on community leadership and administration, particularly on the law-making and oversight functions in Ama Ihite community. In this community, these roles are played by the executives of the Ama Ihite Development Union (ADU). Important as these roles are, there must be a moral high ground where caution and punishment are to be meted out and it is in this respect that the ADU is lacking. A loss of respect for the corrective institution of the ADU ensues when they take on the Principal of the Community School. The central concern of the dramatist is that corrective institutions must be credible, else they become ineffective.



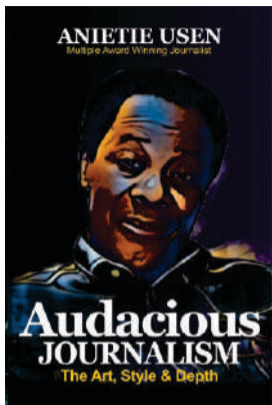
It's not uncommon to hear stories of people falling from grace to grass or from riches to rags; the more common practice being just working for sustenance without any plan to become more financially buoyant and also having something to fall back on during the rainy days.

MY PATH TO HAPPINESS

Abisola Biya

The key idea of this book is improving wellbeing, developing the mind to see positivity and having happiness regardless of any situation. It covers aspects of life that people go through (depression, financial instability, self-doubt, relationship problems etc.) coming from ignorance as well as from lack of self-belief, which could be as a result of various circumstances like exposure and upbringing.

Anyone can have a happy life if they have the right mentality and take care of themselves mentally and emotionally through self-love and having the right attitude to life.

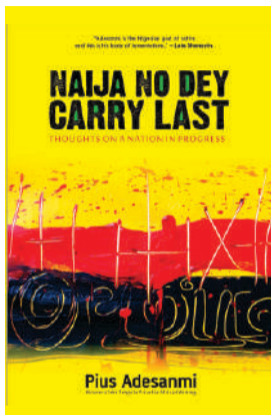


AUDACIOUS JOURNALISM

Anietie Usen

Audacious journalism is Anietie Usen's testament of a long and eventful career as a distinguished and award-winning journalist. Starting with the story of employment at Dele Giwa's Newswatch Magazine, the book provides a selection of the author's articles. The articles are at once informative and educative. But most importantly, the provide a perspective to the past that grants an understanding of the present, even as the future unfolds.

Britain has a way of cloning America or vice versa. Take a look at the recent past: Jimmy Carter and James Callaghan; Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher; George Bush and John Major and now Bill Clinton and Tony Blair. Like America, Britain is not just phasing out old computers, they are equally flushing out old, weather-beaten politicians.

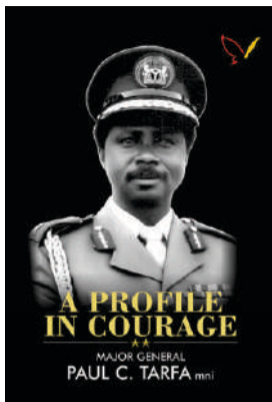


We are even getting dangerously close to a point where one of these charlatans ruling and ruining Nigeria will go to the toilet in the morning and declare that whatever he did therein to unburden his bowels is "historic", "epochal" and will "move Nigeria forward".

NAIJA NOR DEY CARRY LAST

Pius Adesanmi

Naija No Dey Carry Last is a collection of essays detailing Pius Adesanmi's observations, thoughts, and reactions on Nigeria. As a public intellectual, Pius Adesanmi has taken on both quotidian and 'hallowed' issues and made them accessible to the reader. The reader is served, as it were, not just the facts, but the tongue-in-cheek opinion of the author's obviously intellectual capacities.



A PROFILE IN COURAGE

Maj Gen. Paul C. Tarfa (mni)

A Profile of Courage is the memoir of Paul Chabri Tarfa, retired Major General of the Nigerian Army. In lucid prose, he recounts his upbringing in Garkida, his choice of a career in the Army, his role in frustrating the January 15th 1966 coup at the Federal Guards, Lagos, and his active participation in the military through the Civil War, coups and counter-coups until his retirement in 1988. Revised in view of restating his truth to today's Nigeria, A Profile in Courage channels the lives of Birma Bata, Usman Vidau, Paul Tarfa himself, Yakubu Gowon, T. Y. Danjuma, Ahmadu Kurfi and many others faced with decisions requiring courage in times of extreme emergency.

A few hours (later), I was disturbed by heavy banging on my front door. The time was about 4 a.m., 15th of January 1966. I heard, "Sir, Sir, wake up!" I looked down through the window. What I saw frightened the hell out of me. It was a Land Rover full of soldiers in battle dress. Confused, I thought for a moment that they had come to arrest or shoot me.



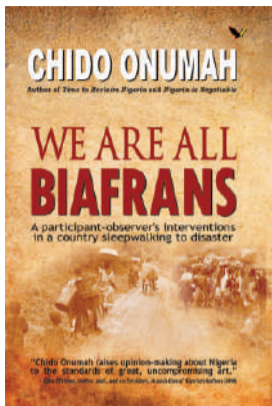
The misconception that the woman's place is in the kitchen has left many women living unfulfilled and empty lives. Whether male or female, inside of everyone lies the capacity to fly and conquer situations, make an impact and achieve their dreams. It is not surprising therefore that the emptiness of living without pursuing their dream and purpose has left many women feeling frustrated and unfulfilled.

BEYOND THE KITCHEN

Dr. Georgiana K. Ngeri-Nwagha, OON

Dr. Georgiana Ngeri-Nwagha's *Beyond the Kitchen* is a manual of advice, encouragement and exhortation for women to strive toward ascendancy and self-actualization outside the home. The title itself is a loaded phrase, as the kitchen is a woman's domain as is the hearth. The kitchen is the corporal sustaining room and the heart of the household.

The author started by bemoaning women's backwardness and quickly adduced reasons for same. These are "gender discrimination, stereotyping, exploitation, government policies and laws, sexual abuse and others". She, however, thinks that the onus of empowerment should emanate from the woman herself who must first believe in herself and show the desire to improve herself. She lists Religion and Culture as pillars of female subjugation.



WE ARE ALL BIAFRANS

Chido Onumah

In this provocative book, Chido Onumah argues that many, if not all, of the problems of Nigeria are rooted in the structure of the country. He makes a case, as he did in his previous books, for the socio-political restructuring of Nigeria. He argues that the country needs to engage episodic political convulsions that threaten its very foundation, including Biafra, June 12, Boko Haram, the "National Question", citizenship rights, and "militocracy".

In *We are all Biafrans*, Onumah takes on Nigeria's indolent and reactionary ruling elite – civilian and military – and their allies, as well as bandits in uniform, scoundrels posing as statesmen, and conservative ideologues, religious bigots and ethnic chauvinists posing as patriots. He raises fundamental questions: What is Nigeria and who is a Nigerian? If Nigeria is a federal republic, what constitutes or should constitute the federating units? He posits that the different manifestation of Biafra may well be a metaphor and, to that extent, we are all Biafrans as long as we seek to confront the clear and present danger.

The impoverishment of millions of our country men and women, the wanton abuse of rights, the unmitigated corruption, alienation, internal colonisation and exacerbation of the fault lines of the country, are not issues that the current political order can tackle. As a first step towards addressing this issue, we recommend a national dialogue of genuine representatives of the people on the future of Nigeria.



MONEY WHILE YOU PLAY

Peter Akanimo

Peter is a compelling writer, who supports his narratives with astute observations, brilliant and technical insight, and memorable anecdotes. His book is much more than a real estate 'how to' but actually a guide to intergenerational wealth planning. He highlights the effectiveness of team cooperation and collaboration, which he places at the heart of success in real estate. His keen analytical assessment of the different categories of real estate and their potential returns is excellent and exemplary. This is required reading for the visionary real estate investor.

Many factors contribute to sales outcome such as nearness to existing community, availability of infrastructure such as access road, power and security, visibility of government's institution or master plan for the area, proximity or ease of transportation link to an industry or place of interest, and payment plan (pricing)

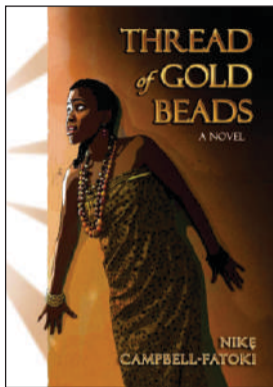


THE TRAVAILS OF A FIRST WIFE

Razinat T. Mohammed

The Travails of a First Wife is an expose on the attitudes of rival women living in the same house. Zarah suffers unduly at the hands of Ibrahim and later at the hands of her rivals. Yet, in spite of her traumatic experiences, she will have no other life away from Ibrahim.

She walked away without saying a word in reply. Ya Kolo saw the unexpressed thoughts on her sister's face and watched her retreating back in silence. She could not imagine that Zarah would suddenly change her countenance at any reference to her mate. She wondered how she was going to cope when all the fray of the moment was over.



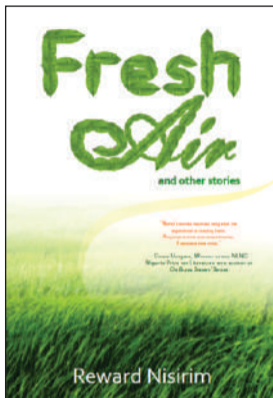
I smiled even before my eyes opened. Dossou's voice still lingered in my ears. I opened my eyes to see an empty mat where Dossou should have been. I rolled over, my nose pressing into the raffia where his body should have rested. I could smell him. It wasn't a dream. Dossou had been here. I burst into tears, pulling my hair in agony.

THREAD OF GOLD BEADS

Nike Campbell-Fatoki

Thread of Gold Beads chronicles the tumultuous life of Amelia, daughter of the last independent King of Danhomè, King Gbèhanzin. She is the apple of her father's eye, loved beyond measure by her mother, and overprotected by her siblings. She searches for her own place within the palace amidst conspirators and traitors to the Kingdom. Just when Amelia begins to feel at home in her role as a Princess, a well-kept secret shatters the perfect life she knows. Someone else within the palace also knows and does everything to bring the secret to light. A struggle between good and evil ensues causing Amelia to leave all that she knows and loves. She must flee Danhomè with her brother, to south-western Nigeria. In a faraway land, she finds the love of a new family and God. The well-kept secret thought to have been dead and buried, resurrects with the flash of a thread of gold beads. Amelia must fight for her life and what is left of her soul.

Set during the French- Danhomè war of the late 1890s in Benin Republic and early 1900s in Abeokuta and Lagos, South-Western Nigeria, Thread of Gold Beads is a delicate love story and coming of age tale of a young girl. It clearly depicts the strength of the human spirit in the face of adversities.



FRESH AIR AND OTHER STORIES

Reward Nisirim

A struggling, UK-based Nigerian is overwhelmed by the demands of his family back home, and a recent returnee is dazed by his country's veneration of non-black foreigners. An innocent man jailed and tortured by the Abacha regime is forced to sit and watch a football match with his tormentors, while another man breaks free from his high-flying family's emasculating expectations. A female bank marketer succumbs to the pressures of the job, and an orphaned teenage girl is sexually abused by an uncle. A government minister visits his home state in a motorcade of dozens of exotic vehicles, wrecking lives in the process; while a second-hand car, dumped by a frustrated European student, travels across the seas to meet a grateful Nigerian professor.

The roving mob was a fascinating mishmash, with apparels ranging from the garish to the slovenly; coiffures representing the fashionable and the ludicrous, and mannerisms spanning languor and loquaciousness. Virtually every building on the street was a club or pub or something similar, from which beamed garish lights.



THE SPIDER'S WEB

Dumebi Ezar Ehigior

The Spider's Web follows the lives of a handful of Nigerian women, focusing in particular on Nnenna Nwakuche, and Ejiro. They are the two main recipients of the violence in the novel.

The Spider's Web is a story about the real lives of men and women, the varieties of people and love, the bond between mother and child, the solace of family and friendship, the inexplicable feelings between people who are passionately connected in ways they don't understand.

The book raises the possibility that marriage and victimhood are inseparable in Africa. In reality, this is a widespread suspicion, sometimes justified, sometimes not.

Surely, the Nigerian church had become the new economic plantation, focused on preaching a message of capitalism and individual gain and economic success, instead of community and spirituality. The church had lost sight of its initial calling: serving the community and being a beacon for equality and justice, offering spiritual and emotional support and social improvement for those in need.

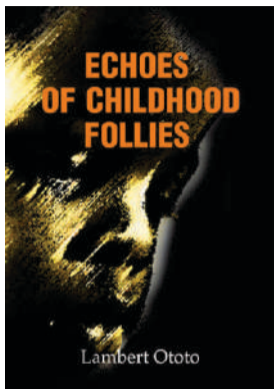


BONGEL

Maryam Bobi

As a child, Bongel knows the freedom of a nomadic life. In its pure form, she also knows love in Modibbo's friendship. However, childhood is lost in an early marriage. She is traumatized as a child-bride, but a fresh start as a student leads her to a cherished friendship with Kauthar who introduces her to her brother, Abdul to Bongel. A romance blossoms between them. However, everything Bongel holds dear is threatened when Kauthar discovers the disturbing secret about her. Consequently, her future is hinged upon whether she lets her past consume her happiness or fights to reclaim the love she deserves.

Bongel had to traverse hills and valleys. But all that seemed like a world buried under the sea. In the new world she found herself, she seemed to be in a journey all alone, standing helpless at the foot of the hill that continued to grow- a giant mountain that might become impossible to traverse.

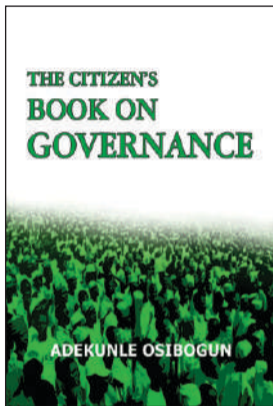


ECHOES OF CHILDHOOD FOLLIES

Lambert Ototo

On his deathbed, Bumie entrusts his lush and enviable business empire to his favorite son, Saagbe. He had groomed him in the trade right from infancy. In addition, Bumie offers his son gifts of rare wisdom on the inevitability of death for all mortals, and on what path the son should follow in order to succeed in life. One such piece of advice is that saagbe “must mature in mind and age before (he gets) involved in the intricate institution of marriage; (he) must be financially stable”. The father spices up this advice with the philosophical observation that “Marriage is like wind; you only feel the direction from which it comes, but you don’t know the extent to which it would go and when it would stop blowing”.

I will ask you to compare life to the ebbing and abating tide; when the tide ebbs full circle, flotsam and jetsam and other weightless hanks slowly glide and jerk on the surface of the water. As the tide abates, not all the debris would be found on the shore. So is wealth, those who have them today may not be with them tomorrow. The ones that have gone with the tide will come to those of us that do not have it now. So, all you need do is to pray for long life, so that you would be old enough to have your turn.



THE CITIZEN'S BOOK ON GOVERNANCE

Adekunle Osibogun

The Citizen's Book of Governance is a composition of the author's notes on governance in light of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The book offers a vision of the "Nigerian Dream" as portrayed in the Nigerian grundnorm, with an objective of creating a concise pamphlet that can aid the understanding of the Nigerian system of governance and the roles of her democratic institutions.

Every person has a right to life, and no one shall be unlawfully killed. This right is however qualified where the sentence of a court of competent jurisdiction is executed; or where reasonable force is used: (i) in self-defence from unlawful violence or defence of property; (ii) to effect a lawful arrest or prevent the escape of a detainee; and (iii) to suppress a riot, insurrection or mutiny.

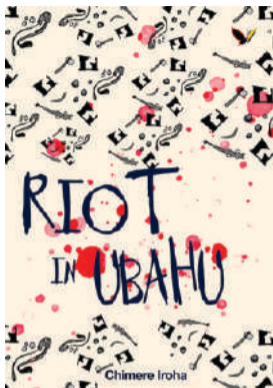


A SACKFUL OF WISHES

Azizah Idris M.

Hadiza Musa, 25 years old, has been through hell. As a bubbly fun-loving teenager, she marries the impulsive Abdurrazaq Zanna, known as AR, and for eight years she suffers starvation, rape, and mental abuse from an increasingly obsessive husband. The death of her beloved father followed by the death of her beloved son brings things to a head. Hadiza determines for a divorce just as AR insists they are meant for each other forever. Thus, begins a battle for survival in which scars come to light and allies come from unexpected places.

I realized that he was waiting for response. I was not comfortable with this, whatever this was. I had never talked about anything personal with this man other than giving an excuse o being ill. He knew nothing about me apart from wthat which my biodata stated. Except maybe that I was a tatecomer and an avid rule-breaker, though never a troublemaker.



The teachers joined hands and pinned him to the floor. Within a split second, he overpowered them and dashed to the door and escaped. Daddy and the teachers ran outside in pursuit. "Stop him! Stop him!" they chorused as they alerted the security men.

RIOT IN UBAHU

Chimere Iroha

Riot in Ubahu is the story of a school - a federal government college, as she fares under her principal, Chief Obama Orizu, fondly called Obama by students, staff and family members. A strict disciplinarian, Obama works tirelessly to raise the academic and moral standards of the school. Inadvertently, he is known for discipline and fairness. The school itself thrives – having both excellent Academics as well as infrastructure to show for the principal's hard work.

Not unlike any mixed boarding school, FGC Ubahu is home to various kinds of shenanigans - bullying, extortion, bounds breaking, sorcery, and the occasional riot. In this narrative, a riot occurs at the end of the novel of the novel when Obama is transferred, and a new principal leads the school to the edge of ruin.

The riot is ruinous as it can be – leaving rape, destroyed school property, and hooliganism in its wake. A side of the school – especially the students, that had never been seen comes to the fore. And it falls to Chief Obama Orizu to restore order and splendour to a school he once called home.

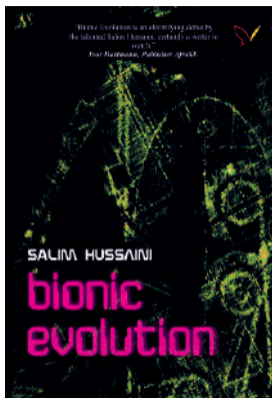


54 SILHOUETTES

Africa Ukoh

Victor Chimezie, a struggling Nigerian actor pursuing big dreams in Hollywood, finally gets the biggest opportunity of his career when his agent Sonny Chuks, lands him a part in a blockbuster action film. There's a big shot producer backing the project and the lead actor is a megastar. It's fame and fortune knocking, everything he and Sonny have bled for over the years. There's only one problem. The movie, Victor comes to discover, is exactly what he swore he would never do again-another "war in Africa" film. Trapped between career ambitions and ideals of his African identity, Victor must decide whether to do the damn film or ditch it.

Look bro, these whites, they find our names hard to pronounce, you know? And some a'them don't like that, it gets their tongues in a twist. So, when we're around, you know, company, don't... That's why I use Sonny, it's simple and slick: "Hey, Sonny! Yo, Sonny! What's up Sonny?" If you can't fight the nostalgia that keep it short, call me Chuks.



BIONIC EVOLUTION

Salim Hussaini

Long after humans abandoned the Earth, in a far-flung Dystopian future, Zakari Nebula is abducted and experimented upon by forces darker than even his imagination. After physical and mental torture of the most horrific kind, the now-cybernetically enhanced abductees escape.

Bionic Evolution is the story of the bonds they forge and the battles they face, as they take one last stand for freedom, and their very own souls.

They soon caught up to Zak whose gills were flared, his bionic eyes darting from one direction to another. He remembered his time in the aquatic chamber. As Zak swam, he could feel the water flowing along his skin and bionic parts. Underwater felt strangely enough like home.



CROCODILE GIRL

Sam Omatseye

The novel periscopes two prejudices, both rooted in slavery and race.

A disturbed young American, Tim Forester, travels to an African village to interrogate a story that he descends from a black woman in the slavery era. A black beauty, Alero, is ostracized by the village elites because her ancestors were labelled as champions of the slave trade era. Tim is told that the family ancestor's grave lies in a forest. Alero also hears that her dead mother, who was called a crocodile as a way to stigmatise her family as slave dealers, always had a locket believed to be in the forest. Both believe the truth is in a forbidden forest known as "the forest of silence". Tim and Alero confront their pasts and prejudices and what happens to them turns the village into a commotion of revelations that rile old and young, and expose centuries of elite hypocrisy and fear.

The crocodile girl was darkness or at least, the absence of light. The mother was the crocodile that gorged the flesh of the unsuspecting. Goodness prevailed when the crocodile was killed and she disappeared from the face of the earth. Or so they thought. Now, she was back in another incarnation, more fell and dreary, with jaws that devoured, jaws with a shadowy menace, jaws no one could see or touch.

OLA AND BISI'S ADVENTURES OF HEALTH

Edirin Metseagharun

Beautifully illustrated, Fit Kid or Fat Kid continues the Adventures of Ola and Bisi, two children from a privileged home. It presents kids with lessons on healthy weight maintenance, healthy snacking, healthy drinks, benefits of water and benefits of exercises.

With the dramatic way it highlights the stigma children have to pass through just for being fat, Fit Kid or Fat Kid will appeal to children and their parents. The book, which foreword is written by award, winning children's novelist Uche Peter Umez, also features informative exercises that introduce children healthy living.



These days, being overweight is more common than being underweight. In the last thirty years, a growing number of kids and teenagers have developed weight problems. Today, one out of three kids and teens between the ages of two and nineteen are overweight or obese (a word that means "very overweight"). Many grown-ups understand what it's like to have weight problems, since two out of every three adults are obese.



She was in love for the first time in her life. She loved his nobility and was intrigued by his desire to understand everything; he was obsessed about the Tinland crisis, naïve as he was about the true evils of this world. She stayed up to hear him decry the corruption in Nigeria and the "wanton genocide" in Tinland. His presence had soothed her conscience.

BOFAK ILLUSION

Tanimu Sule Lagi

FC Newsday reporter, Zack Liman, is murdered by government agents in Tinland when he finds something sinister lurking beneath law and order. . .

Stubborn journalist Billy Dada is hot on the trail of a murder case, which becomes one of high political crime and ultimately, a matter of hard drugs. . .

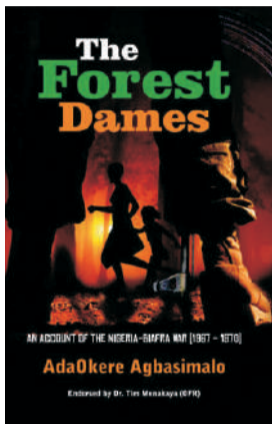
Gloria Dan, femme fatale and drug baroness, dies in police custody and is resurrected. . .

Ayuba Giok, amateur sleuth with a mind for conspiracy and a nose for trouble. . .

Kim Shykes, biracial Santomean ex-cop, with a beef against organized crime. . .

Jion Belleck . . . Libyan trained assassin with a mission to extract Gloria Dan from Nigeria. . .

In *The BOFAK Illusion*, Nigeria's new king of crime weaves a story reaching from the beaches of Sin City to Tinland to the gates of Aso Rock itself in a game where the desire for good to win over evil is not enough.

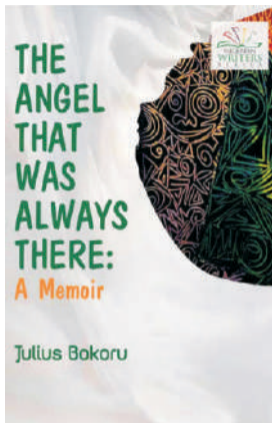


Once people stumble into power, they hold onto it and stifle the so-called surrendered people, who might not yet find the voice to say 'no' and who might not immediately have a choice and a say in matters concerning them. The thought of it scares me stiff but I know that time itself changes situations.

THE FOREST DAMES

Adaokere Agbasimalo

It is a pulsating story about the devastating effects of war, in which Adaokere Agbasimalo dwells on the sordid consequences of civil war on humanity and the torturous effort to achieve normality. It features Dze, a young girl with a keen mind who lived with her parents in a typical African setting and felt the pain of war. As an adult, the memories remain intact, haunting her. *The Forest Dames* is a strident voice detailing and condemning potentially malignant actions that continue to impede the development of African nations and indeed parts of the developing world. These include wars, culture-based biases, illogical and deadly tribal hatred, etc. African and world leaders, politicians, historians, students and the general public should be awakened by the book.



When I saw him, there was this cloud over him that made me pity him. We were both blue and broken hearted, and when a woman is broken hearted the only man that could have her easiest was an equally broken-hearted man. Because shared disappointments crates trust, trust creates preference and preference opens every heart, whole or broken.

THE ANGEL THAT WAS ALWAYS THERE

Julius Bokoru

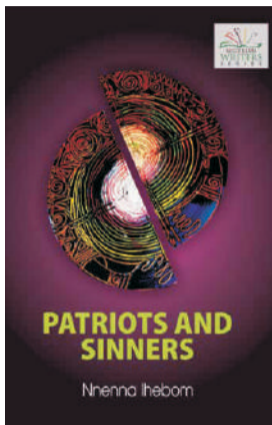
Julius Bokoru's "The Angel That Was Always There" is a memoir that tells the story about a child grappling at life, trying to make sense of who he really is. Struggling and failing. Confused and lonely. Saved intermittently by the love of his mother, but losing that mother when he most needed her. It is heart breaking. It is heartrending. The story leaves you shivering long after you've left it. Because here comes young Julius, ambling down the pages, whispering haunting memories in a swaggering bravado—sputtering pretty prose-poetry.

The 141 paged Memoir written in 17 Chapters portrays the plight of single motherhood with its setting in Ijaw land. The Memoir exudes picturesque and poignant tales that give account of Julius Bokoru's childhood experiences while skilfully weaving a gripping tale portraying single parenthood, its pain and struggles.

This debut Memoir seeks to answer some of the most disturbing questions:

"Where is my father?" "Why don't I know him?" "Why is society disrespecting my mother because she is a single mother?"

In the process, the Ijaw and Niger Delta social life is being presented to the world in a lush narrative.



We can look at the big picture and thus achieve big results. We can look beyond campus cultists to the system that creates them. We can look beyond armed robbers to the forces that give rise to them. We can look beyond corrupt cops to the forces that turn them into beasts in uniform. I believe in taking out the root of an evil tree rather than cutting the branches and risking the resurrection of the evil.

PATRIOTS AND SINNERS

Nnenna Ihebom

Leo and his men are desperate for change. Their quest is blind till they abduct Siella, the president's daughter. It is not just abduction. Their encounter redefines radical change; it redefines Leo and his men. They find new zeal. Their criminality comes with reduced acrimony as they become philanthropists and the 'true patriots' – cautiously loved by the people and wanted by the government and power-drunks



I think the only remarkable thing about Adelaide was her gorgeous eyes. They were the shade of emeralds. I hate to admit it but I sort of loved those eyes, cat eyes or not. They bespoke a warm, mellow personality which I was sure Adelaide was the opposite of. She smoked like a chimney, not the kind of eyes for her, I suppose.

CAT EYES

PEVER X

Cat Eyes is the story of Pededoo, a country boy, who struggles to maintain a civil relationship with his father who had just returned home after many years abroad with a family of Cat Eyes. Despite his resentment for his father and the new family, Pededoo is hardly able to resist and truly dislike Melissa-Jane, the amiable and dashing cat-eyed blonde. Cat Eyes is a bildungsroman, a book of family, adventure, self-discovery and love that would take readers on a voyage they would hold dear.



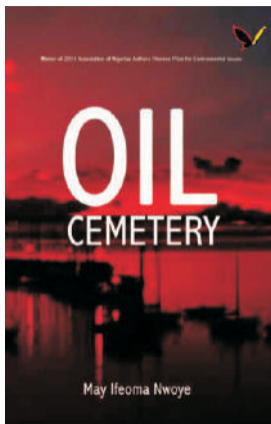
The anomalous had become the norm in a country where corrupt leaders, privileged touts, political humbugs, embezzlers and faceless assassins ruled over the law, spitted on it, and farted on it and threw its tattered cloak on its subjects- those who regard it as the ruler of a society.

VIRAL LOAD

Kayode Oguntebi

A new status shattered Tunde's dream.

Sir Richard Grunt had his past questioned by a crash. A thin line could not deter Michelier from following her heart, just as the heart of NguessoNomvete strayed from the ethics of prostitution. The fruit of the union of contrasting colours grew up hating that union. And Dr. Fadeyi was undaunted in his belief that a cure would come from his gods!



OIL CEMETERY

May Ifeoma Nwoye

Oil Cemetery is the story of Rita, a fragile young girl living in the Niger Delta, whose father becomes a victim of an oil company's activities. On the one hand is the obscene wealth enjoyed by a few while the majority of the delta's citizens live in poverty and suffer from the degradation of their environment. Oil Cemetery shows the quest of these people to seek a solution to their suffering, while delving into the intrigues of the elites. By a twist of fate, Rita leads a subtle revolution that will shock the entire community.

From the slave trade to the crude oil era, the history of our natural resources has remained in the hands of a league of merchants whose key agenda lay in the amount of natural resources they could acquire from our country. In their scheming exploits, they have raided our culture and our communities, brought a string of political, economic and social clashes, introduced conflicts and ignited the fire of poverty and Self destruction among our people.



We are not meant to be confined to our differences or live in fear of the differences of others. Rather we are supposed to connect with our differences by approaching new ideas with open hearts and minds.

DIVINE LOVE

Maryam Jokolo

In a world filled with intolerance, uniting people to accept each other's diversity has never been more difficult and more necessary.

Despite those differences, two people are able to rise above them to see what really matters above all else; their shared humanity. Khadijah Ibrahim, a young Muslim activist on a journey of self-discovery to find her true purpose stumbles upon Frank, an atheist constantly searching for the truth about religion.

Through her passion for humanity, good conduct and humility, Frank falls head over heels in love with her and discovers God in the process. United by Islam, their differing backgrounds and cultures threaten to tear them apart. Can they face the challenges or concede to the demands of opposing forces?



THE SQUARE PEGS

David Obasa

This is the story of three ambitious young men: a scientist, an artiste and a writer; who were raised in different backgrounds but through series of events and circumstances had their path crossing one another. Along the way, they were confronted with obstacles. Some of these obstacles were life threatening and some others resulted in painful losses.

This is a story that intricately combines thrills, frills, pains, humour, ardour and defiance in a manner that unfolds the twists and the turns.

Before he became totally lost, however, he had a flash on his mind: he had not locked the door, he had merely closed it. He struggled to rise, but in vain. Then after several attempts; he rose easily lightly-very lightly. It was as if he was a piece of paper. He went to the door to lock but was surprised that the speed and force with which he moved made him to appear outside his room through the door. Through the door!

OMOI MEYA

“

It is our choices, Harry, that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities.

- Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets

”



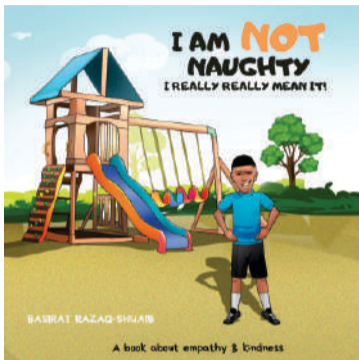
HOUSE OF EZYRON

Princess Izuagba

In the possession of stolen lucre, Brume Lauva takes a big step and decides to run away from a life he has known for more than a decade; a life of consistent failures, and from a girlfriend that shattered his heart and his last feeble grip on a broken dream.

Lagos, he believes, could offer another chance at life, where he could mend his broken heart, and perhaps start to dream again. But en route to his land of promise, a fatal bus crash occurs, and Brume is the only survivor—without a scratch. He flees the scene of the accident and hitchhikes his way to Lagos.

In Lagos, he begins to live again. He gets reconnected to a long-lost friend, with whom he shared dreams in the university. He invests the stolen money and finds love again. He gets all he craved on a plate—money, comfort and something resembling happiness. But there is more to this world—a monumental test that would change his life forever. MEN DON'T DIE is a thought-provoking story of love and money; death and spiritualism. About a man's personal struggles against the unfairness of life, in search of true happiness.



I AM NOT NAUGHTY, I REALLY MEAN IT!

Basirat Razaq-Shuaib

SOME PEOPLE FORGET TO DO GOOD THINGS EVEN THOUGH THEY KNOW IT IS GOOD BUT WE CAN WE HELP THEM GET BETTER.

From constantly spilling his food to not sharing toys or giving others a chance in class, Ayo is the boy everyone gets tired of. But he claims his behaviour is not his fault! How can this be?

This compelling and reassuring story will appeal to all children who occasionally feel misunderstood. The book includes positive affirmations to help all children improve their confidence and empathy.

Mum, Dad and Lola sighed, "These meal times are quite difficult,"
Dad said, "I wish there was something more we could do." Mum,
looking tired cleared up the mess and went into the room to help
Ayo get ready.

There was no time for Mum to finish her breakfast. Lola wished she
could have more time to talk to Mum and Dad about her school.

Poetry

A close-up, warm-toned photograph of a fountain pen with a dark barrel and silver-colored accents, lying diagonally across a piece of paper with faint, handwritten cursive text. The background is a solid, warm yellow.

“Poetry is ordinary language
raised to the Nth power.

- Paul Engle

”



Look always through those longer seeing eyes, and you will find that many irritations no longer seem important, many disagreements seem irrelevant, your own position here so brief upon the earth is not worth angry words, not worth an argument, not worth mounting a defence. For those few things that matter, even they are better spoken softly, as an expression of concern, a question, admonition

DANCE HERE

Laura M. Kaminski

Such touching tribute from one who remembers Jos in all her naivety and mourns her lost innocence even from many miles away from her.

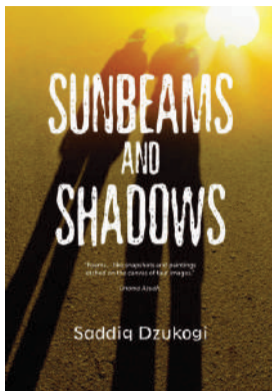
- Amu-Nnadi

Laura bursts into song with an efficacious voice that is unapologetic-- woven with lines that give skin rush. This is a playlist of songs we must all dance to.

- Saddiq Dzukogi

Forgive me, Laura, for neglecting to say that you have been one admirable Poet Laureate of the victims of Boko Haram onslaughts and other suffering people in another part of your very large human constituency as a poet of the finest sensibility, called Nigeria.

- Chiedu Ezeanah.

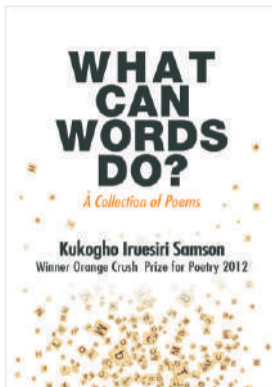


The fear of failing holds you back from knowing if you will succeed in the walk. But do not be shell-bound in fear of taking the walk. Each leap ordains the feet as the bearer of light and underneath each step, shadows rise like dust to vanish in the orifice-eyes of illuminating air.

SUNBEAMS AND SHADOWS

Saddiq Dzukogi

Sunbeams and Shadows is a collection of eighty-Six poems spread within three sub-titles that include Continuum, Silent Pixels, and Homage. The one hundred and ten page book is published by Origami, an imprint of Parresia Publishers limited, Lagos. The well designed book is of fine quality and the poems gush with ripe innocence, a quality of true beauty. The poems talk about love, pains, philosophy, uncertainties and the absurdities of life. The collection's romantic ambience is as effective as the lamentations therein.



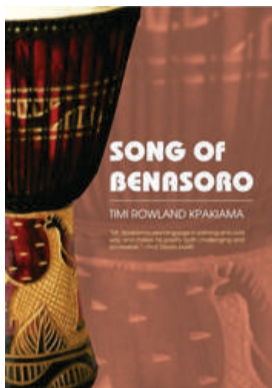
There's another woman; you taste her on his lips. His limp self is bruised. His fat purse is no more! Go ask them at the bar! How long will you remain a beggar without choice? Yesterday you limped, Today gifts you a black eye, Tomorrow will claim a tooth! I've dug your grave and carved the headstone: "Herein lies a beggar without choice".

WHAT CAN WORDS DO?

Kukogho Iruesi Samson

With the earth of structure and the air of rhyme, the water of rhythm and the fire of passion, Kukogho Iruesi Samson weaves his own brand of poetry, keeping faith with the old traditions, yet inventing new ones. This collection of poems addresses much, from the struggle to bury memories of bitter childhood to the agitated demand for a better world; if Poetry is, sometimes, difficult to fathom, you will find the effort, in this case, vastly rewarding.

Like the author himself asks, What can words do? In this collection, he shows that they can do anything; that they can do everything

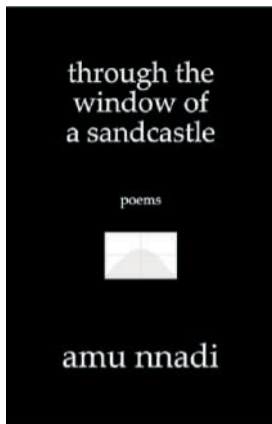


*I know the spot of my family tree
And the name of the man that planted it,
I am my father's daughter. I know where
My father hangs his buffalo horn, and when
He blows it, I dance like one possessed
By the buffalo's spirit,
Because I know the size of the moon and
Buffaloes birth their own kind.*

SONG OF BENASORO

Timi Rowland Kpakama

Kpakama's poetry is energetic and direct as it addresses the issues of the oppressed headlong, calling a spade by no other name but a spade. He draws from his Ijaw oral tradition, the strength of which lies in its performative expression. His vast knowledge of his people and their traditions and culture give voice to his immensely lyrical lines, rich in proverbs, metaphors, fables.



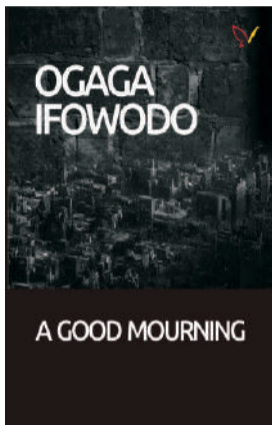
*Why should I care if flowers die, if water loses its way, if
the sun, gutted, goes blind. Why should I, why should I
care if we go home hungry, if our head drops down, if life
stares with gutted eyes and there is nothing but fallen
flowers, broken earth and graves of what is dreamed.*

THROUGH THE WINDOW OF SANDCASTLE

Amu Nnadi

Through the window of a sandcastle is the third poetry collection by amu nnadi, Nigeria's foremost poet. It won both the Glenna Luschei Prize and the Association of Nigerian Authors Prize for Poetry in 2014. Described as "a stunning collection of poems, (it) not only confirms the continuing vibrancy of the art of poetry in Nigeria but it also extends that tradition of excellence by taking it with consummate assurance into novel domains."

The Judges of the Association of Nigerian Authors Prize for Poetry submitted: "The work's major concerns—the anguish of bereavement, the poignancy of travel and departure, and the consuming passions of romantic love—are memorably reified in autobiographical moments that strike universal human chords and whose existential implications continue to haunt long after one has dropped the book. amu nnadi brings these moments viscerally alive by confronting them with a gaze of unflinching intensity, and the seeming ease with which the poet imbues personal experience with archetypal significance is one of the virtues that make through the window of a sandcastle consistently alluring."



A GOOD MOURNING

Ogaga Ifowodo

The core of Ogaga Ifowodo's fourth volume of poetry is his reflections on the intimacy of evil, anchored on the brazen military annulment in 1993 of the will of the Nigerian people to self representation, echoed in other festering sores of the African continent and beyond.

Experimental and traditional all at once, Ifowodo craftily draws the reader into the dark recesses of the mind where, he warns, that which menaces the world, which "secretes the slow brooks of bitter blood, feeds the dream of murder" lies hitched to every heart.

*She wore it lightly, like an invisible veil of grace in a thunderstorm,
wore her grief expertly like a second skin of mail grown to blunt the
blows that rained on her. You could tell she mourned: her electric
eyes brightened the restaurant's darkest corner and blacked out
glistening tears swallowed by a heart bracketed with insoluble
grief, witness to more than a life should bear.*



My dignity is my pride. Whosoever sells his or her dignity has lost all. Come rain, come sunshine, I will keep mine even if it warrants me losing the last drop of my blood.

I AM NOT TO BE SOLD

Tobore Ighofuma Ovuorie

"I Am Not To Be Sold" is a Media Initiative Against Human Trafficking And Women Rights Abuse (MIAHWRA)'s debut project on human trafficking awareness cr 1. Hallelujah by Funbieation. It is a collection of poems on human trafficking by secondary students in Lagos State. It is intended to educate children about the inhuman business and prevent them from falling prey to traffickers.

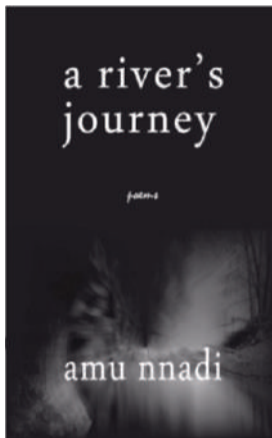


MUSIC OF THE DEAD

Musa Idris Okpanachi

These are wild and unsorted poems written at random when I am dizzy watching them pirouette on the top in their game of folly.

*It was a story, it became a tale, transformed into a folktale,
translated to a legend. The legend became a myth. And the myth
changed to human mysteries the riddles of the heart passed from
mouth to ear, scattered to the lands of nights and dreams.*

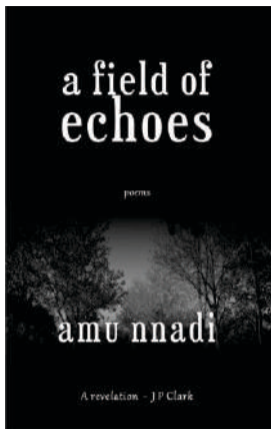


Diseased roads confess how sick and far gone is our country. All over, sores manifest puddles with putrid pus sad scabs of sore strife. Old truck, broken joints crying from its exhaust smoke of burnt offerings journeys up a hill of sand tottering, overloaded with hapless, trapped citizens scrawled, without amen on its bruised geography "only god for poor man"

A RIVER'S JOURNEY

Amu Nnadi

Amu Nnamdi is a reference point in modern African poetry. He has continued to enrich our days with poems that heighten our sense of the moment and point us in the direction of artistic excellence. As the French composer and teacher, François Delsarte once observed, "the artist, a traveller on this earth, leaves behind imperishable traces of his being". Amu Nnamdi has left us some, and more.



With you a poem becomes honey, delicious. With you a hug becomes wine, intoxicating. With you the moon becomes a woman full bosomed. With you every day, everything, every pleasure, every pain is a poem, with you every poem is epic.

A FIELD OF ECHOES

Amu Nnadi

The Russian poet, Osip Mandelstam, said not so long ago that people need poetry as much as they need bread. In a career spanning over two decades, Amu Nnamdi has overfed the famished spirit of his nation and continent with his truly fecund imagination. In 'a field of echoes', which we cannot be too hasty to name his defining work, his heightened powers as a poet are in abundant display.



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The Booksellers: 44, Quarry Road Opposite Anglican High School Junction Ibara, Abeokuta.

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MINNA

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